GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1996
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003
RIVER-LINKING PROJECT
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of the Task Force on River-linking Project had asked the Surveyor General of India for topography maps of the rivers;

(b) if so, whether objections were raised for making available the maps, on the grounds that they were secret documents and their placement on the website to invite technical opinions about feasibility of the project would involve breach of security; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to resolve the objections?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (c) In connection with launching of website on interlinking of rivers, Ministry of Defence was approached for security clearance to place the digitized maps of the proposals on the website and also their use for other purposes such as preparation of tender documents, technical reports and other project related activities. Ministry of Defence suggested to carry out certain corrections in the maps and desired that the coast line and international boundary of India would need to be authenticated by the Director, Map publications, Survey of India, Dehradun before final printing. In this regard, Survey of India has suggested certain modifications to be attended to in the maps before considering the same for authentication.